

SECRET

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of this department was the producing of a bulletin for the West, which was passed for dissemination to the branch offices (Aus-senstelle) of the Chamber for Foreign Trade, to sympathetic jour-nalists in capitalistic countries, and to the Communist Parties of the Western countries; this bulletin allegedly was to advertise East Germany to foreign countries. Both Gerhard Eisler and Goeres (fnu) of the International Relations Department of the Ministry for Culture were called in to assist on this bulletin. Further duties of this department included: producing advertising material for foreign exhibitions; and extending invitations to foreign journalists. There had been visits by groups of jour-nalists

In each case, however, the invitations were passed through the Com-munist Party of the country concerned, who favored the "sympathetic bourgeoisie" (sympathisierende "Buergerliche").

3. The Personnel (Cadre) Department was headed by Voss (fnu)¹, who replaced Emil Mathmann in September 1954. Voss formerly worked in the Personnel (Cadre) Department of the Ministry of the Interior.

Details on the Work of the Ministry.

4. The main sphere of interest is the concern over international recog-nition of East Germany. The possibility of recognition of the USSR by West Germany is regarded with mixed feelings since, in general, pos-sible discussions between Bonn and Moscow via Pankow are feared.
5. The Foreign Ministry has no contact whatsoever with Western diplomats. Functionaries of the Foreign Ministry have no possibility of examining the classified Soviet reports (including those reports of the Soviet High Commission) dealing with the West. The Press Department of the Foreign Ministry has almost no direct con-tact with Soviet Ambassador Pushkin. All dealings are handled via the Press and Radio Department of the Central Committee of the SED. Nothing was known regarding the means of contact between the other Main Departments of the Foreign Ministry and the Central Committee or the Soviets.
6. Close collaboration exists with the foreign-trade organizations, the Ministry for Foreign Trade, the various DIAs, and the Chamber for Foreign Trade.
7. There is decided interest in improving relations with Arabic-speaking countries (arabische Laender).

The general complaint was that there were too few reliable men for such positions in Western countries. Emigrants from the West and other persons with Western contacts are suspect; and reliable Party members have not enough experience in dealing with the West.

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